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MSHDA-Legal

August 22, 2007

Ms. Mary Levine, Director of Legal Affairs  
Michigan State Housing Development Authority  
735 East Michigan Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48909

Re: Michigan's Qualified Allocation Plan

Dear Ms. Levine:

The **Community Development Group** (the division of Summit Pointe Mental Health Authority providing safe and affordable housing to disabled populations) supports all changes to Michigan's Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) that will increase the number of housing units made available to persons who are homeless and/or special needs individuals/families.

CDG works closely with the Battle Creek Homeless Coalition to end Homelessness in Calhoun County. We have noted the community's significant progress—and the long way to go in realizing the *10-Year Plan to End Homelessness*.

The Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program is one of the largest resources made available to Michigan to create new or rehabilitated affordable units for low income people, and as you may be aware, Michigan's economic climate has increased the homeless population across the state. On any given night, Michigan has a homeless population that exceeds 80,000 people, and it is imperative that tax credit dollars are dedicated to the creation of units that will assist this population and/or those with special needs.

For the State of Michigan to receive approximately \$200,000,000 annually from the federal government and not to set aside a large percentage of these funds to help the homeless and/or those with special needs is to disregard the poorest members of our society.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns. If you have any questions, please phone me at either 616.241.1134 or 616.443.1666.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MB', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael Barkey  
Director